

## PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

Contact: Kevin Kelly Phone: (573) 751-9300 Governor Office Building, Suite 900

FY-04-75

## GOVERNOR HOLDEN APPOINTS STEVE GAW AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Jefferson City (November 3, 2003)---Governor Bob Holden has appointed Commissioner Steve Gaw as Chairman of the Missouri Public Service Commission replacing Kelvin Simmons who announced his resignation as Chairman effective November 3, 2003.

"The Missouri Public Service Commission greatly appreciates the hard work of Kelvin Simmons as Chairman of the Commission," stated Steve Gaw. "The Commission is more open and accessible to the public, press, the General Assembly and the utility industry as a result of Kelvin's hard work and dedication. I hope to continue those efforts."

"It is important," Gaw continued, "that consumers believe their interests are protected and that they have a voice in energy and telecommunications issues. This summer, we embarked on a number of local town hall meetings to talk about rising natural gas costs. Those were very beneficial meetings providing important dialogue with consumers. I would like to see us continue along that path in the future." stated Gaw.

"As I step into the role of Chairman at the Commission, I do so at a very challenging time for our agency. We have a number of rate cases before the Commission and there are several other key state/ federal issues on a number of subjects including electric infrastructure. We will continue to work hard to ensure Missouri ratepayer interests are represented before federal agencies in Washington," Gaw added.

Commissioner Gaw was appointed to the Missouri Public Service Commission in March of 2001 by Governor Bob Holden. His term expires in 2007.

Prior to his appointment to the Commission, Gaw was Speaker of the Missouri House and served as a State Representative of the 22nd District representing Randolph County as well as the Missouri counties of Howard, Chariton and Boone. Gaw was first elected to the Missouri House in 1992, became Speaker in 1996 and served until January 2001.